TUESDAY, MAY 31, 1904. Entered at the Post Office at New York as Second

Class Mall Matter. Subscriptions by Mail, Postpaid. DAILY, Per Month DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Year DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Month Postage to foreign countries added

Published by The Sun Printing and Publishing Association at No. 170 Nassau street, in the Borough of Manhattan, New York.

If our friends who favor us with manuscripts for publication wish to have rejected articles returned, they must in all cases send stamps for that purpose.

### The Indelicacy of Durbin.

Governor DURBIN of Indiana is a man of a certain rude vigor, but he is not at all delicate. Indeed, he must strike the Hon. CHARLES WARREN FAIRBANKS as most indelicate. DURBIN has called a conference of the Indiana delegates to the Republican national convention.

The only thing for them to confer about is FAIRBANKS. Is or isn't FAIR-BANKS a candidate for the nomination of Vice-President? Hitherto he has smiled and put the question by, or seemed to wave the nomination away.

Meanwhile, the Hitt boom has budded, blossomed and decayed apparently. Meanwhile, Fate and the American Sense of Humor dog Uncle JOE CANNON implacably. In vain, he runs away, utters hot and angular words and hugs the Speaker's bauble to his rugged bosom. The villains still pursue him.

Is it still in the power of Mr. FAIR-BANKS to save Mr. CANNON'S life, so to speak, medicine him to sweet sleep once more, tear that tragicomic spectre of the Vice-Presidency from his pilyw? Even if the bland Hoosier makes up his mind to let the office seek him, he may find that he that will not when he may, he shall not when he would-a.

Governor DURBIN and several other Indiana Republican statesmen have an immediate personal interest in the matter. They want FAIRBANKS nominated for Vice-President, not because they love him or sympathize with JOE CAN-NON, but because they hope to get Mr. FAIRBANKS'S job in the Senate.

The indelicacy of Governor DURBIN'S conduct must be painful to Mr. FAIR-BANKS. But down in Danville, Ill., there is earnest hoping, even praying, perhaps, that FAIRBANKS is willin'.

### False Pretences in Georgia.

Crying passionately for a Georgia delegation instructed for PARKER, the Atlanta Journal says:

"The matter in this State, as in all the other States, long ago parrowed down to a test of strength between HEARST and PARKER, with the former a ridiculously bad second. No other candidates are to be considered."

The Democratic party would be in a parlous condition if only one man could save it from being kidnapped by the young LOCHINVAR of the Eleventh Congress district.

If Mr. HEARST is "a ridiculously bad second," it is idle to worry about him and unfair to try to use him as a bogy for frightening nervous Democrats into the Hill corral.

The Democratic national convention will not be held for the purpose of furnishing "a test of strength between HEARST and PARKER," but to nominate the man who seems likeliest to get the most electoral votes. The Democratic problem is not to beat HEARST, but to beat ROOSEVELT.

#### The Concordat Not Denounced, But Threatened.

We are not surprised to hear that the discussion of the relations of France to the Papacy, which took place on Friday in the Chamber of Deputies, was followed with anxiety by the Vatican authorities The apprehension of an immediate abolition of the Concordat was, indeed, allayed; but there was ample ground for alarm in the announcement made by Premier COMBES that the expediency of divorcing the Church from the State in France would be considered in the national Legislature next January, when a definite decision would be reached.

The action of the Government in recalling M. NISARD, the French Ambassador to the Vatican-in order to express its resentment at the terms in which Cardinal MERRY DEL VAL, the Papal Secretary of State, in a note addressed to the Regent of Bavaria, had protested against the visit of President LOUBET to King VICTOR EMMANUEL-was approved by the immense majority of 332, even ex-Premier RIBOT, the leader of the Opposition, voting for the motion. Nevertheless, a motion offered by a Socialist Deputy that all relations with the Vatican should be broken off was defeated by 239 votes, and a resolution offered by a Nationalist that the Government should enter upon a negotiation with Pope PIUS X. for a separation of Church and State obtained only 18 votes in its favor.

Taken by itself, the Chamber's peremptory refusal to adopt proposals contemplating a definite rupture would naturally encourage hope at the Vatican that, with time and reciprocal explanations, the existing friction between France and the Papacy may be abated. Unfortunately, it is not easy to reconcile so optimistic a view of the incident with the explicit declaration made by Premier COMBES that, while so serious a step as divorce of Church and State should be preceded by measures safeguarding the Republican régime against the political risks to which it might be subjected by such a radical change, yet, observing how the Concordat is daily violated-so he charged-by the Church, he was of the opinion that a prolonged continuance of the situation would be intolerable. He added that several schemes for ending the Concordat had been under consideration in committee, and that one or more of these would be laid before the Chamber after the passage of the budget in

January, 1905. It is probable that the Premier had in mind the project of law known to have been already formulated by the Committee on the Separation of Church and State; The measure, as drawn, begins electors having been chosen by the Legis-

with guaranteeing freedom of conscience and the unrestricted exercise of religion, except when restriction may be needed for the preservation of public order. It proceeds to declare that the French Republic will neither protect nor pay salaries nor subventions under any form whatever to any denomination; that it will not recognize any minister of religion, and will not furnish any building for the service of any denomination, or for the lodging of any of its ministers. The proposed measure goes on to abolish the Concordat, suppresses the French Embassy at the Vatican, and makes provision for the disposal of the Government's church property. We scarcely need point out that under the existing Concordat the Catholic Bishops and priests are salaried officials and the Minister of Public Worship is a member of the Cabinet.

Many things may happen before next January. France, conceivably, may find herself involved in the Far Eastern war; or, what is more probable, M. COMBES may be succeeded by a Premier less implacably hostile to Catholicism. Much may depend upon the spirit in which the recall of M. NISARD is treated at the Vatican. Should Pope PIUS X, behave at this critical conjuncture with studied moderation, and refrain from recalling Mgr. LORENZELLI, the Papal Nuncio at Paris, permitting him either to remain at his post or granting him leave of absence, the oft-mooted separation of Church and State in France may be postponed once more.

#### Changes Before the South.

The question of the means best adapted to stimulate immigration to the South is now engaging very general interest and exciting very earnest discussion in those States. The immigration which the South would attract is not merely or principally from foreign countries but also and even more importantly from the Northern States of the Union.

The great incentive to immigration is the present agricultural prosperity of the South, due to the high prices obtained for the last cotton crop, and the consequent prosperity of the other industries of the region. If cotton raising continues to yield profits so great, and even if there shall be a considerable diminution in them, the South will need to put forward no other inducement to immigration than that afforded by them. If Southern farming continues to be the most profitable in the Union, emigration of farmers from the Northern States to gain its advantages will go on without the necessity for further stimulation than knowledge of that fact. The only requirements will be for information as to the land obtainable, its quality

and its price. From such immigration the South would gain more than merely material advantages. For its political and intellectual welfare it needs the discussion which opposing opinions produce. At present there is at the South a political monotony which is unfortunate for the best development, but in the nature of things it cannot long continue when once emigration of Northern farmers on the large scale begins to pour in for the utilization of its agricultural possi-

bilities-and coincidently a large volume of foreign immigration tends thither. Before the civil war political discussion at the South was at a high level, and the leaders in American politics for a long period were largely Southern. Now foregone conclusion, those States have

lost the leading political influence they had then. The great strength of the Democratic party is in the South and logically the South should be the leader in shaping its policy, yet for the very reason that the Southern electoral votes can be relied on, whatever is the Democratic policy, the South occupies a subordinate place. It leads no longer, but is expected to follow. In the period before the civil war

political contests in the Southern States were bitterly contested and their results were doubtful. From 1828 up to 1856 of the Presidents elected, three were Southern men, ANDREW JACKSON, JAMES K. POLK and ZACHARY TAYLOR, the first two Democrats, but the third a Whig. HENRY CLAY, the great Whig leader and the idol of his party at both the North

and the South was a Kentuckian. When he ran against JACKSON in 1832, though he was beaten hadly in the Electoral votes. vet of the 49 of these votes received by him, 23 were those of the Southern States of Delaware, Maryland and Kentucky. The Whig Gen. HARRISON, elected in 1840, carried, besides Delaware and Maryland, the Southern States of Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina and Tennessee, and the contest was exceedingly close in Alabama, Arkansas, Missouri and Virginia. Even in 1844 when Polk was carried into office by the question of the annexation of Texas and received 170 electoral votes to 105 for HENRY CLAY, the Southern States of Delaware, Maryland, Kentucky. North Carolina and Tennessee were carried by the Whig. In 1848 the Whig ZACHARY TAYLOR carried all those States and also Florida, Georgia and Louisiana. In 1852 FRANKLIN PIERCE received 254 of the 296 electoral votes, yet among the four States only carried by his Whig opponent, Gen. WINFIELD

FREMONT, naturally enough, carried no Southern State. The popular votes in the Southern States in 1852, as between PIERCE and Scorr, show how great even then was the division in Southern political senti-

Scorr, were two Southern, Kentucky

and Tennessee. Then came the break-

up of the Whig party and the formation

of the Republican party and in 1858

ment.		
Alabama	Pierce	Scott.
Arkansas	12,173	7,404
Delaware	6,318	6,293
Florida	4,315	2.875
Georgia	84,705	16,660
Kentucky	58,806	57,068
Louisiana	18,647	17,255
Maryland	40.020	35.006
Mississippt	26,876	17,548
Missouri	38.353	29.984
North Carolina	39,774	39.056
Tennessee	57,018	58,898
Texas	13,552	4,985
South Carolina is not	included	ite

lature. It is noteworthy that Richmond was carried by Scott and he was beaten

in New Orleans by only 19 votes. We give these election returns to show to the many of the present generation who are not informed concerning our political and partisan history of past generations that the present political solidity of the South is an anomaly in its history, due to the color question and other issues growing out of the civil war. At the period when the South was most influential as a political force it was sharply divided in its partisan allegiance and was the scene of the most active political discussion. Such a division, normal to a community so intelligent as the South, will return; and the accession of a large white immigration from the North, with the result of a complete subordination of the race and color question, would contribute to an end so desirable.

#### Fifty Per Cent. Weaker Than a Year Ago Yesterday?

There are few of the survivors of the war between the States who have not reached the age of sixty-two years, the time when a man's capacity for manual labor suddenly decreases by 50 per cent. under the magic of Pension Order 78.

Yet vesterday thousands of veterans. officially weak and feeble, marched miles over trying pavements in celebration of their departed comrades' glory. Spurred to the exertion by a feeling of pride, have they overtaxed their strength and sapped their vitality in an exhibition to which a strong sentimental feeling excited them, but from which they could derive no possible physical benefit?

A year ago the same men marched the same routes, proud in their undiminished vigor, with no thought of the awful future that awaited them not a twelvemonth away. Then they were as strong and hearty a body of men as could be picked from civil life; now they totter and stagger beneath the President's decision that they are too old to be strong, too advanced in years to be capable of the task they undertook so willingly a year ago.

How else can this parading of officially enfeebled old men be looked upon than as an inhuman practice, worthy-not of applause and commendation, but of the severest reprobation?

In the interests of humanity it should be prohibited—that is, if the theory of Pension Order 78 is correct.

### Undeserved Criticism.

The death of Senator QUAY prompted the President of the United States to send this message of condolence to the family of his late friend:

"Accept my profound sympathy, official and ersonal. Throughout my term as President senator QUAY has been my stanch and loyal friend I have hoped to the last that he would, by his sheet courage, pull through his iliness. Again accept

Like every utterance delivered by the occupant of the high office that THEO-DORE ROOSEVELT holds, this message has been read attentively, and, in some quarters, in no very friendly spirit. The New York World, for example, says of it:

"With five references to himself and four to Senator QUAY, Mr. ROOSEVELT seems to have been ing with the President rather than with the

widow to whom his telegram was addressed." It is doubtful whether any of the late Senator QUAY'S friends counted the number of references to individuals in Mr. ROOSEVELT'S telegram; but had this test been applied by them, they would not have felt that he was condoling himself to a greater extent than with those nearer to his friend.

As a matter of fact, the President's message to Senator Quay's family was unexceptionable in form and substance. Mr. ROOSEVELT expressed the thoughts that were in his mind, honestly, frankly, sincerely, in plain, straight English without slopping over, without endeavoring to conceal anything, without attempting to garland the name of QUAY with any honors that it did not deserve.

His message was thoroughly proper; and we are sure that its truthful phrases carried more comfort to those for whom they were intended than the most carefully polished "form for expressing condolence" could have conveyed

# Germany's War in South Africa. The Hereros of Southwest Africa have

now been in revolt for more than four months. The Kreuz Zeitung, an ultraconservative and military German paper, declares that the situation is most serious.

The methods employed by the German army for the stamping out of the insurrection will be watched with very great interest. In the earlier stages of the Boer war England employed tactics closely resembling those of BRADDOCK in his day and those of the "redocats" at Lexington. She met with little success until her colonial men got to work with methods similar to those of their opponents. Regarding that system of warfare to which England was at last obliged to adapt herself as best she could, German troops know perhaps less than did the English a few years ago. Unless Germany profits by England's experience, the news despatches will report more than one repetition of

the Braddock incident.

The native force is believed to be well armed and supplied with ammunition. It is said to be well provided with horses and a fair number of its troops are reported as mounted. It is mobile, elusive and unencumbered with military traditions. Under certain conditions military discipline, combined with conventional formation and manœuvres, is the important if not determining factor in an engagement. Against the native tribes of Southwest Africa, well armed. even partly mounted, and thoroughly familiar with a vast territory which is only complimented by calling it a wilderness, the ironclad military system of Germany is more likely to be a source

of danger than a tower of strength. A real war with such a people as the Hereros and their allies, in such a country as Namaqua-Damaraland, is a new experience for German troops. From present indications the work promises to be difficult and the contest prolonged. The country is tropical, and if the natives can succeed in drawing their opponents into the interior it would seem that they might have them almost at their mercy. The process of German adjustment to the conditions confronting their expeditions will be very interesting to students of military affairs.

### Gog and Magog.

"An Anglo-Israelite" of Nova Scotia calls our attention to chapters 38 and 39 in the book of Ezekiel in the Bible as prophetic of "what is going to happen

According to EZEKIEL, God from the land of Magog, "the chief Prince of Meshech and Tubal," "shall come out of the north parts, thou and many people with thee, all of them riding on horses, a great company and a mighty army," and him the LORD will destroy utterly, in a great battle, after which shall come the final dispensation. In the book of Revelation in the New Testament Gog and Magog again appear, but as terms descriptive of the Antichrist whose destruction is to be the precursor of the millennium.

The God of EZEKIEL seems to have been, unquestionably, representative of the Scythians. Later he seems to have been, not less unmistakably, an expression symbolical of the heathen nations of Asia generally, of whom knowledge in EZEKIEL's time was of the vaguest description, if not wholly mythical. The destruction of God might therefore be interpreted as prefiguring the downfall of Japan and China, not less reasonably and perhaps more reasonably than the downfall of Russia.

Gog has been taken to represent many military undertakings reprobated by the interpreters. For example, God was identified with NAPOLEON: but now our Jewish correspondent revives him as Russia and looks forward to the destruction of Russia by the Japanese as the fulfilment of the prophecy, and the restoration of the Kingdom of GoD to follow on it he interprets to be "a destined triumph for the British nation and the United States, or the whole Anglo-Saxon race." "The destiny of the world to-day" he puts "in the hands of those two great Powers."

"The sooner you come down off your perch," he tells us in conclusion, "and acknowledge the corn the better." Inasmuch as we have ascended no perch it is not possible for us to get down. We can only look up to the perch from which he utters the command and wonder at his assurance as an interpreter of prophecy.

As for ourselves, we have no theory on the subject of Gog to propound. Nor have we been able, after more or less reading on the subject, to reconcile the opinions of other people who have ventured interpretations of the prophecywhether Gog was destroyed in the far distant past, was overcome in the person of Napoleon or is now about to be overcome in the defeat of Russia by Japan. Both Japan and Russia, it must be remembered, are northern peoples, the one Christian, and very piously Christian, and the other heathen. Nor is it sure yet how the present war is to come out. Perhaps Gog will prove to be Japan.

As to "the Anglo-Saxons," who are they and what reason is there for describing this country of many nationalities-more than a million Jews, for instance—as "Anglo-Saxon"?

We copy from the London Times of May 20 the essential parts of a remarkable article in which the military expert employed by that journal attempts to demonstrate the inability of Russia either to have accumuted in Eastern Asia the which St. Petersburg says it has there, or to reenforce and supply adequately an army of that strength, assuming it to be at the front. The difficulties under which the Czar's Government is laboring, with its sole dependence on an enormously long line of single track railway, heavily congested and constantly threatened, have not been more strikingly illustrated.

# An Impartial Purpose Misunderstood.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I have lways somewhat pitied the man at whom the arrows of your front and censure were directed. Just now it seems to be your rigid purpose to knock all the feathers (Cuban as well as domestic, off the cap of our President, and your champions of political archery consistently manage to amaze us by great accuracy of aim and grim earnestness of will. However, your attitude of reticence as to certain questions makes us guess and guess, feeling that you are keeping big cards under the table for eventual display. You ignored the inquiry of the faithful Mr. Riis, and you are still, it seems to me, too far in the back impetus necessary to hold it to the end of promises to be a hary, hot campaign. Come forward a little, please, and let us have a glimpse of your secrets. Is a modern Crom-well ridiculous to contemporary life? NEW YORK, May 28. PAUL HARBOE.

May a Union Teamster Whistle a Strauss To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SITE I have read with much pleasure the editorial article in you

newspaper this morning concerning the musical To-day I heard in your Fifth avenue a union teamster whistling a waltz written by Strauss, who is, as I presume you are aware, a non-union

I had some non-union undergarments in my trunk and refused to call this teamster for fear that my baggage should not be delivered at the pier on ime to catch my steamer for the Fall River Line. However, hearing the non-union waitz whistled by he union teamster, I secured courage and my bag-

gage was sent away at this time.

Now, what I desire to know is: Must I take some union underclothing with me in order to travel on the New York and Hartford Railroad? I desire to go on Sunday. Will your Mr. Park-hurst arrest me if I try to ride in a closed cab on ite me if I attempt to seat myself in the end of one

of the open car seats?

If I go to the pier by my friend's automobile. just I go by way of the routes proposed by your olice Commissioner or am I allowed to run slowly through the streets and take my risk of the stoning

I am an Englishman, living in Vienna, travelling in America, and I ask solely for information-for J. K. PALMER. NEW YORK, May 29. Halcyon Days for Women.

### From the Lady's Pictorial. Never, surely, has it been so easy to dress effec-tively and tastefully as this summer, when either in style or color or fabric it is well nigh impossible to find anything really ugly. This is truly a halcyon nake "all the difference" have been thought out

Next Month.

When the waters dance with gladness, And the blue skies, bending over, Bear no trace of clouds or sadness, And the fields are spread with clover; When the feathery dandellon Stars with gold the emerald grasses, And each tip of bough and scion Droops with bloom in snowy masses; When the birds with joyous singing All their blas and hope are telling. And the south wind balm is bringing,

All the name of June are spelling.
NIMETER M. LOWATER.

RUSSIA'S IMMENSE TRANSPORTA-TION PROBLEM.

The True Condition of the Army in the East and its Reenforcement.

From the London Times.

The numbers of Russian troops already at the seat of war have been estimated in these columns, namely, in round figures, 230,000 men east of Balkal by the middle of May, and a field army not exceeding 150,000 all told, giving a combatant strength south of Mukien at this moment of not over 100,000 men but probably less. Should events prove that the numbers have not been underestimated, the inference will be that the calculation of through traffic of the Trans-Siberian and East China railways, made before the war began, has proved to be correct. It was assumed at the outset that the daily average Bajkal would probably not much exceed four a day under the conditions then prevailing and that, given the necessity for the despatel of stores, supplies, transport and construc-tion material, the daily arrivals at Harbin would not be more than 800 a day-a some the St. Petersburg estimate. Given 150,000 men on the ground on Feb. 8, and a daily reenforcement of 800 men, it was clear that by
the middle of May the numbers in the Far
East would reach the total of about 230,000; and if to these we add some 14,000 reserves, locally incorporated, we are sufficiently close to the figures previously arrived at by a study of the war strengths of units known to be on the spot.

Now, if we glance back at the fictions which have been disseminated in the press of all countries by St. Petersburg, we are bound to conclude that the authorities who gave out the information were either very ignorant or else rated the intelligence of the world very gram from St. Petersburg on Feb. 3 that the Russian army which would operate in the Far East, including those on the spot and en route, aggregated 390,000 men, and that an addition would be made to these figures at the rate of 110,000 men a month, which should at this moment give Russia 720,000 men in East Asia, or about two-thirds more than she

If we take it another way and accept with pecoming humility a daily arrival of 6,000 men, the present number, all included, should be 750,000. Thus this fresh flight of the Icarus of the Russian press bureau has quite as amentable an end as the other, and both alculations fall to the ground by reason of he dead weight of their own inherent im-

According to Prince Khilkoff [Minister of Ways and Communications the average number of trains now running on the section west of Baikal, from Cheliabinsk to Irkutsk, is ten each way. These trains have not only to carry troops, stores, mails, supplies and munitions of war, but also the material for he construction of the circum-Baikal railway, for fresh sidings to be made east of the lake, as well as provisions for the inhabitants along the line who "have been deprived o

lake, as well as provisions for the inhabitants along the line who "have been deprived of the first necessities of life owing to the cessation of ordinary traffic." It is hoped that by the present date eleven trains will run each way every twenty-four hours, and we will take the Minister's word for it that this anticipation has been realized.

Prince Khilkoff, however, confesses that up to the time of the recent thaw on Lake Baikal the Manchurian Railway has not been able to exceed the number of six trains a day; but during his stay in the East he was able to make such arrangements as might be expected to insure the raising of this number to nine each way every twenty-four hours. This result he expected to secure by the construction of eleven fresh sidings, by the provision of a better supply of fuel and by the transfer across the lake, effected during his visit, of 65 locomotives, 25 passenger coaches and 2,013 goods vans and trucks. Now every traffic manager is aware that on a single railway, given a fairly well laid line, properly equipped and sufficient rolling stock, the question of movement of trains depends upon the distance of the stations apart, or, failing stations, of the sidings. From Baikal to Harbin alone it is, roughly, 1,200 miles, and with stations twenty-five miles apart, as they are, the addition of eleven supplementary sidings is quite inadequate to make a radical change in the conditions of through traffic.

Until the circum-Baikal railway is open, which will not be this summer, all military and other traffic has to pass across the lake by boat. On the lake there are two steamers available, the Baikal and the Angara. The Baikal carries, on three pairs of rails laid along her axis on the main deck, twenty-five to twenty-eight railway carriages with their loads at each trip, and at the speed of 7.5 knots makes the double journey five times in two days when the ice is completely dispersed. So long as the ice is even three feet thick the time occupied by a single journey may be three days. Clos

persed. So long as the ice is even three reet thick the time occupied by a single journey may be three days. Closely packed, the twenty-five carriages take 1,000 men, or 200 horses, while, on the upper decks and below. 2,000 more men can be penned in. The Angara can also carry 1,500 men, sardine fashion, on each journey, and is not adapted for carrying railway plant. Therefore, if it were merely a question of transferring a mobiform one side of the lake to the other, the maximum carrying capacity would be 11,250 men a day.

According to our advices from Moscow, the reopening of the steamer traffic across Lake Baikal was anticipated on May 3. Many people, basing their calculations upon the maximum capacity of steamers and trains, overstate the power of Russia to reenforce her army in the East. If we admit Prince Khilkoff's estimate of six military trains a day and allow these trains each twenty-five carriages holding forty men aplece—although actually they are only taking twenty-five to thirty—it is certain that 6,000 men can be passed along the line in a single day, but not every day or every day of the week. What may be possible, the utmost possible, for one day does not represent the average, and it is from their failure to take the whole situation into account that so many calculators have come to grief, including, apparently, those at the Russian War Office. The Trans-Siberian and its continuation in Manchuria is practically the sole line of communication, not only for the army, but also for the navy and the civil population throughout Russian East Asia, since the assistance which will be afforded by the waterways of the Volga, Amur. Sungari and other rivers hardly promises much relief and will come to an end in the early autumn with the return of the frost.

It has been frequently shown in these columns that the transport of army stores in the reason material and supplies for the local population, must necessarily absorb much of the raffic. Prince Khilkoff shows that between Jan. 25 and March 12, a period

exist for 300,000 men for another six weeks, it is doubtful whether the facts are as they represent.

Again, the proceedings of the Russians in Manchuria with regard to the local supplies are very suggestive. If numerous reports from independent sources are to be believed, the Russians are practically sweeping all southern Manchuria of its supplies, cattle, food and horses, without payment. An army may clear a whole district of supplies and live upon that and little else for a certain length of time, the period varying with the density of the population, the numbers of the army, and the nature and quantity of the crops and stock. But that harvest is only reaped once in a district during a campaign, and famine then reigns in the land. The system of rapine initiated by the Russian army is generally fatal to discipline, and it will not be at all surprising if the Russian forces eventually show the ill effects of the measures to which they seem to have been compelled to resort.

In view of all these considerations, which are very serious, and become increasingly so as fresh troops are placed in the field, it would be a sanguine estimate that would henceforward greatly advance the numbers which Russia can despatch per month to the Far East. It is not easy to give a definite figure,

bit of Little Russia can find its way to the Far East in military guise under existing circumstances.

A Russian army corps of the western pattern numbers all told 41,000 men with 124 guiss, inclusive of its cavalry division, and has with it 3,717 carriages and 17,000 horses.

The above number of men, horses, carriages and guiss require for their transport to the East 216 trains, and would occupy the entire military traffic leaving the east bank of Lake Balkai for thirty-seven days. If the first train left Moscow on June 1, it would reach Mukden about July 6, and the corps would be completely concentrated on Aug. 13, thus monopolizing the entire traffic for two months and a hair.

Even if the corps were made less mobile, and the cavalry division excluded, the concentration would not be effected before the end of July. It is further evident that no such monopoly of traffic is possible, the circumstances of the army being what they are; and thus the intervention of even a single complete and fully mobilized army corps from the west presents difficulties next to insurmountable. What will probably happen will be that a certain number of battalions and batteries will be despatched with a great flourish of trumpets, together with drafts to make good losses, and that these will be magnified into complete army corps and will figure as such on the Russian lists. It may be recalled that the despatch of the residue of the Tenth and Seventeenth Army corps, each of which has an infantry brigade slready at the front, was promised for April 15 and is already a month overdue. The arrival at Harbin of the residue of these two army corps, including a reserve division at Kazan also under orders, could not be secured before the end of September.

tember.
Thus, while all our attention is naturally riveted upon the feats of arms at the front, the pulse of the campaign is best felt far in the rear of the contending armies, and it is certainly a made that the state of the contending armies, and it is

the situation on the Russian side is one to cause the gravest anxiety.

Meanwhile Japan, so long as she retains the command at sea, is practically at home at the seat of war. From the rich stores of her abundant population she retains the power of continuously placing two or more men in the field for every one that Russia brings up. She can regulate her action by that of her enemy, and always anticipate it, since she can throw troops into Manchuria with greater facility, greater speed and in more efficient condition.

condition.

The final success of Russia in this campaign is not, therefore, as yet within sight. THE SIEGE OF PORT ARTHUR.

Its Relation to the Troubles of the Czar, in Asia and at Home.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The Japanese having accomplished the invest-ment of Port Arthur by land and sea, onlookprogress of the struggle and await the issue. fighting that took place around Kinchau and the Nanshan hill from one side; the other has still to be heard from. When it is, we shall probably learn that the Russian resistance was essentially perfunctory, the General in command knowing that however long he might maintain it and however great the loss he might inflict on the enemy, his position was so compromised from the start that the question of retiring was only one of time.

was so compromised from the start that the question of retiring was only one of time. The Russian loss as given by the Japanese reports is not large by any means; what may prove of material consequence later on is the capture by the Japanese of so many guns in a position where they could have been used in the future defence and which there are no means of replacing except by dismantling the warships.

The military consequences of the last Japanese success were no doubt foreseen by Gen. Kouropatkin, and will have been provided against: it is the political outcome at home that cannot be clearly calculated nor met by the Czar's Government.

How anxious the Emperor himself is can be gathered from the reports of his progress through the country the other day, when he was inspecting and bidding farewell to the troops going east. It reminded one in a way of the public acts and speeches of the French King just before the revolution. There was evidently the same desire to placate the masses and render himself personally popular. On the other hand, there was no sign of sympathy with either the Czar or with the people on the part of the bureaucracy.

Fortunately for the Czar, there is no national assembly whose leaders might stamped the masses in a mad rush to sweep everything away; and the censorship of the pressenables a curb to be put on those who might be inclined to play the part of the French revolutionary leaders. Then, in the last place, there is the intense Russianism that animates the noble and the mujik alike and will keep them together until the outside danger is past.

The Government, meanwhile, is showing signs of giving a new orientation to its far Asian policy, and one that would probably have been adopted but for the ascendency of the timber and gold mine speculators in

signs of giving a new orientation to its far Asian policy, and one that would probably have been adopted but for the ascendency of the timber and gold mine speculators in the Czar's entourage. The report that the Russian Government is making proposals to the Chinese to restore Manchuria to Chinese authority in return for concessions in Kuldia and for a railway that would bring Irkutsk and Pekin in direct communication is indicative of this change. If it can be arranged it will bring Russia and China together for a time in opposition to Japan and her backers, yet leave them without the excuse that a third party has joined their opponent in the war; for the retrocession of Manchuria to China could not be construed as a casus belliagainst either, and Japan would have no further reason for continuing the war.

With China interposed as a screen between herself and Japan, Russia would then have time to work out her plans in other parts of Asia.

Asia. New York, May 30.

# Uncle Sam, Banker for Soldiers,

From the Washington Post.

Your Uncle Samuel is becoming quite a banker for the American soldiers. For the year ended tune so 1905 there was deposited by soldiers \$1,888,014, and it is understood that the amount for the fiscal year which will end the last of the coming June will be much larger. The enlisted men of the United States are allowed to leave their money in and the Government pays the men interest at the

rate of 4 per cent. a year.

Many soldiers largely increase their earnings by leaving their money on deposit as long as possible, and it is really a very good savings bank for them. The year before the Spanish war the ame deposited was less than one third of that deposited in 1903. The enlisted strength of the army has been increased since then, and is now about double what t was before the Spanish war, but the amount lef on deposit is three times as great as it was when the army was smaller. Possibly service in the Orient and the establishment of large posts have been conducive to saving on the part of troops. At al events, officers of the War Department look upor the increase as being an indication of thriftines upon the part of the American soldiers. On sev eral occasions attempts have been made in Con gress to allow officers of the army the same privi lege of leaving their money on deposit, but such bill has been defeated every time

# The Middle Name in Philadelphia.

Philadelphia seems to be a city of middle names. said the cosmopolitan. "If a man has a middle name, and most Philadelphians have at least one he often insists upon having it spelled out in full A mere initial won't do at all. Just glance over the society columns of the newspapers and you will see. For my part I don't see just where there is any more dignity in John Brown Smith than in John B. Smith, but the average Philadelphian seems to think there is. I have frequently been impressed by the published reports of weddings in which the names are invariably elongated as much as nos ble occasion. I have just been reading about the plans for the coming wedding of Miss Elsie Whelen and Robert Goelet of New York, and I was im-pressed by the fact that the published reports do ot credit Mr. Goelet with even a middle initial and the same applies to every one of his six ushers.

And yet they are all prominent society men."

England's Only Woman Gravedigger Dead. From the London Datly Mail. By the death of Mrs. Elizabeth Geese at Lewes England loses its only woman gravedigger. On the death of her husband in 1879 she was appointed to carry on his duiles at the Lewes Cemetery. was 76 years of age.

Admiral Skrydlof's Jewish Wife. From the American Israelite of May 27. Vice-Admiral Skrydloff is married to a Jewess of Odessa, nee Eppslein.

The Ignominious Retreat of Mrs. Hubbard. Old Mother Hubbard went to the cupboard to get her poor doggle a bone.

"Begobs," remarked the cook, "the last lady Ol wurrked fer niver came in the kitchen, an if yez don't clear out, Oi'll lave." Herein we see the true reason why the poor dogAN ECHO OF THE ASPHALT CASE. PHILADELPHIA, May 30. Through his

legal counsel the receiver of the defunct and malodorous Asphalt Company has filed suit for the recovery of money alleged to have been illegally acquired by the promoters of the original organization. Among those involved, or probably to be involved is Gen. Francis Vinton Greene.

The history of this concern was given in the columns of THE SUN last fall. Prior to the organization of the Asphalt Trust Gen Greene and his associates were the proprietors of the Barber Asphalt Company In the spring of 1899 they took the initial steps in a scheme by which they purposed an absolute control of the entire asphalt interest. They bought the business of their more important competitors, and later on took up a considerable number of smaller companies doing business in different parts of the country.

The records show that these various companies were bought by those interested in the Barber Asphalt Company and turned over to the newly organized Asphalt Company of America, of which the same people were the principal owners, at material advances on the purchase prices. The total advance is alleged to approximate \$4,000,000. divided among these gentlemen in proportion to their holdings. The sale of bonds and stock in the new company, at prices far beyond their possible value, put good money into the pockets of the projectors of the enterprise. The present suit is for re covery of the whole or some part of the profit realized by the transactions

The Loint upon which the matter turns is the legal right of individuals to act in a dual capacity in such negotiations whether a man or a group of men, as individuals or as an organization, can buy properties at one price and sell those properties to themselves, as individuals or as another organization, at an advanced price. The question is somewhat involved and it may be assumed that financiers of such standing as these gentlemen were ably advised by

legal counsel. If it can be shown that they acted in purely personal capacity, it may be held that they had full right to do what they would with that which was their own; to value their properties, in transfer and on their books, at any sum which pleased them. But the Barber Company and the Asphalt Company were legally incorporated. If it be shown that their positions were those of promoters, organizers and trustees of these incorporated companies, the status is changed and they may be held amenable to the laws covering such

Among the items which figure in these transactions there stands a note for \$143,-800, given by Gen. Greene. This falls due on May 31, and is likely to appear in the proceedings. The Asphalt companies are dead, but their evil lives after them.

#### GAMBLING IN NEW YORK. Decoration Day Reflections on the Speculative Citizen and the Law.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Last year in New York more than 3,600 arrests were made in "gambling cases," including poolrooms, card games, policy shops, hand-books and slot machines. In 1902 there were 3.051 of such arrests, exclusive of those perraids, a form of primitive law enforcement York crowd and more grist to the mill of some or adds to the popular determination of the great body of citizens to insist upon its en-forcement. The number of actual con-victions for "gambling" in New York has ber of arrests, and from the recent discharge by Police Magistrates, almost without hearing, of many of those arrested in recent poolroom raids, there is every indicaion that the proportion of ultimate convictions to the whole number of arrests will not ciably larger in 1904 than in previous

be appreciably larger in 1995 than it years, if so large.

The desire to speculate, for the sake of speculation, in any of the forms prohibited by law, attains in some American communities the importance of almost a national chartening the sake of the sake o ties the importance of almost a national characteristic. New York, with its considerable infusion of Western newcomers and its large population from European countries in which lotteries and gambling exist, not only under dovernment protection but actually under the control of the control o otteries and gambling exist, not only under Government protection but actually under governmental partnership, tends to constantly enlarge the vast army of those who wager and gamble. This is especially true of the East Side, but gambling there is carried on through games and devices so nearly within the law that raids possible against the cruder forms of play are rare.

In the battle against gambling in New York the police are engaging an enemy the powers of whose resistance increase day by day by the extension of a speculative spirit of which, if the whole truth must be admitted, police officials themselves are victims. With the stamping out of such forms of criminal gambling as "green goods" and "gold bricks," "brace games" and "policy silps," the other and perhaps less objectionable kinds of games of chance—rael games of chance—have flourished amazingly.

NEW YORK, May 30.

# Brown Eggs and White.

From the Lancet.

It is a curious fallacy that the brown colored gg is necessarily superior to the ordinary white egg. a belief which has led to the practice of artificially coloring the latter in imitation of the former. It is doubtful whether the color of the shell bears any relationship to the nourishing quality of the egg. As those who rear poultry know, it is merely an indication of the strain of the laying bird. Still. a preference is very commonly shown for the brown r coffee colored egg; the color is attractive, and, and by the eye, the choice is very generally made a favor of what is regarded as the richer and see perior article. The practice of deception is encouraged. The shell of the white egg is stained in the simplest possible way, perhaps by immersion in a decoction of coffee berries or by means of 23 aniline dye. This resource may satisfy the eye, but, after all, there is probably not the slightest difference from the nutritive point of view between the naturally brown colored egg and the white on-There is most probably, however, an important dietetic difference between two eggs the yolk one of which is a very pale yellow color and that of the other a rich, almost reddish color. It is a no torious fact that the country-produced erg majusualy be placed under the latter description while the egg produced by the hen who is under an unhealthy and limited environment shows an anemic color, generally a very pale yellow. The eggs of wild birds as, for example, the plover

show a yolk of a rich reddish color.

The substance which contributes color to the yolk of the egg is iron, just as it is iron which gives color to the blood, and there seems to be little doubt that the iron compound in the yolk of the est is of a similar nature to that of the blood. It is easily assimilated, and eggs are regarded as a suit able food for the anæmic person, as they present a concentrated and generally easily digested form the egg has, in fact, been termed a "hematogen. because it is probable that from it the blood of the chick is derived. The amount of iron in the yolk of an egg would appear to increase with the intensity of its color, and there can be little doubt that the maximum is reached in the richly colored your of the egg produced by a fowl existing in health surroundings, for then its processes of nutrition would be working under very favorable conditions. As an article of diet, therefore, the egg should be Judged, not by the color of its shell, but of the yolk, which should be of a rich reddish rather than of a

# Where He Made His Start.

From the Philadelphia Public Ledger.
squire in a certain town had just finished marrying a young couple, and proceeded in a paternal way to give them good, solid advice. Turning to the bridegroom, he said: "Never spend your money extravagantly, and saving in every way possible." The bridegroom listened respectfully and then

"Well, Judge, we might as well begin on you," and he proceeded to give the squire 50 cents for tying the knot.

Second Car-Yes, she thought she

A Train Romance. First Car-So she went and got coupled to the